(d) if not, the reasons for not raising the said important issue in the said talks?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI E. AHAMMED): (a) During the India-China Strategic Dialogue held on January 24,2005, both sides had in-depth exchange of views on important regional and global issues that shape the present international environment. Substantive discussions took place on bilateral relations, including in particular on preparations for the forthcoming visit of the Chinese Premier to India. Both sides noted with satisfaction recent positive trends in bilateral relations and reiterated their desire to improve the relationship at all levels and in all areas while addressing the outstanding differences, including the boundary question, in a fair, reasonable and mutually acceptable manner.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) and (d) The resolution of the boundary question between India and China is outstanding. The two sides also have differences in perception of the Line of Actual Control (LAC) in the India-China border areas. Both sides carry out patrolling activity in the India-China border areas. We take up transgressions of the LAC by the Chinese side through diplomatic channels and at Border Personnel Meetings/Flag Meetings from time to time.

Setting up of International Criminal Court

1740. SHRIMATI PREMA CARIAPPA:
PROF.ALKA BALRAM KSHATRIYA:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether India has ratified the treaty of setting up of International Criminal Court to try people accused of violating international law;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons for not ratifying the setting of International Criminal Court by India?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI RAO INDERJIT SINGH): (a) and (b) India has not signed the Statute of the International Criminal Court.

(c) India has not signed the Statute of the International Criminal Court as there are several deficiencies in the Statute, including that it brings under the purview of the Court several crimes, which are subject to national jurisdiction, and makes the primacy of national jurisdiction subject to the satisfaction of the Court. It does not include terrorism as a crime against humanity. It gives special and discriminatory powers to the UN Security Council to refer to, or block consideration, by the Court of cases.

Running of Srinagar-Muzaffarabad Bus Service without visa and Passport

†1741. SHRI R.S. GAVAI:
SHRIMATI BIMBARAIKAR:
SHRI T.S. BAJWA: SHRI UDAY
PRATAP SINGH: SHRIMATI
SUSHMA SWARAJ:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government of India had agreed to start Srinagar-Muzaffarabad bus service across LoC from 7th of April;

(b) whether it is also a fact that this journey would require no passport and visa;

(c) if so, the viewpoint of the Government behind such a decision;

(d) the aspects which were kept in mind by the Government before taking such a decision,

(e) whether Government have also taken it into consideration that this system can be misused; and

(f) if so, the details thereof and the steps being taken by Government to tackle any such possible situation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI E. AHAMMED): (a) to (f) The Government of India has agreed to start the Srinagar-Muzaffarabad bus service across the LoC from 7th April, 2005. Travel will be by an entry permit system, after obtaining details of the travellers and verifying their identities and other information,

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.